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RURAL DISTRICT OF WELLS

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

(including the Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector)

FOR THE YEAR

1966

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF WELLS

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Deryck E. Clare, M.B., B.S., D.P.H., M.R.S.H.

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

S. Harkness, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H.


ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

T. E. Mason

COMMITTEES DEALING WITH MATTERS OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Public Health Committee

Housing Committee



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GENERAL STATISTICS

Area of District (in acres)	57,175
Population (mid-year 1966)	10,980
Number of Inhabited Houses	3261
Rateable Value	£267,661
Product of a Penny Rate	£1,071. 1. 2.

MAIN VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1966

(With comparative figures for Somerset and England & Wales where available)

BIRTHS

<u>LIVE BIRTHS</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Wells R.D.C.</u>		<u>Somerset</u>	<u>England & Wales</u> (Provisional)
				<u>Recorded</u>	<u>Corrected</u>		
Legitimate	82	67	149			8,627	
Illegitimate	<u>1</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>			<u>567</u>	
	<u>83</u>	<u>73</u>	<u>156</u>			<u>9,194</u>	<u>850,000</u>
Rate per 1,000 population			14.21	14.91		17.86	17.7
(Area Births Comparability Factor 1.05)						(Corrected)	

ILLEGITIMATE LIVE BIRTHS

(per cent of total live births)	4.48	6.17	7.9
---------------------------------	------	------	-----

STILL BIRTHS

Legitimate	-	-	-		
Illegitimate	-	-	-		
Totals	-	-	-	130	13,300
Rate per 1,000 live & still births	-			13.94	15.4

TOTAL LIVE & STILL BIRTHS

83	73	156	9,324	863,300
----	----	-----	-------	---------

DEATHS

TOTAL DEATHS

(all ages)	71	117	188	7,029	563,626
------------	----	-----	-----	-------	---------

Rate per 1,000 population	17.12	8.73	10.37	11.7
(Area Deaths Comparability Factor 0.51)			(Corrected)	

MAIN VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1966 (Contd.)

<u>INFANT DEATHS</u> (under 1 year)	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Wells R.D.C.</u> <u>Recorded</u> <u>Corrected</u>		<u>Somerset</u>	<u>England & Wales</u> (Provisional)
Legitimate	2	1	3			131	
Illegitimate	-	1	1			8	
Totals	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>			<u>139</u>	16,147
<u>(Under 4 wks)</u>							
Legitimate	2	1	3				
Illegitimate	-	-	-				
Totals	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>3</u>			99	10,934
<u>(Under 1 week)</u>							
Legitimate	2	1	3				
Illegitimate	-	-	-				
Totals	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>3</u>			82	9,447
<u>INFANT MORTALITY RATES</u>							
Total Infant deaths per 1,000							
total live births ...	...	...	25.64			15.12	19.0
Legitimate Infant deaths per 1,000							
legitimate live births...	...	...	20.1			15.18	
Illegitimate Infant deaths per							
1,000 illegitimate live births.			143.0			14.11	
<u>NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATES</u>							
(deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000							
total live births...	...	...	19.23			10.76	12.9
<u>EARLY NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE</u>							
(deaths under 1 week per 1,000							
total live births) ...	...	...	19.23			8.92	11.1
<u>PERINATAL MORTALITY RATE</u>							
(Still births & deaths under 1 week							
combined per 1,000 live & still births)			19.23			22.74	26.3
<u>MATERNAL MORTALITY (including abortion)</u>							
Number of deaths...	...	...	-			1	
Rate per 1,000 total live & still						0.11	
births			-				

CERTAIN VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE FIVE-YEAR PERIOD 1962-1966

WITH COMPARATIVE FIGURES FOR SOMERSET AND ENGLAND AND WALES.

	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
<u>1. Corrected Birth Rate</u>					
Wells R.D.C.	19.1	19.0	17.34	16.6	14.91
Somerset	17.33	18.15	16.86	16.76	17.86
England & Wales	18.0	18.2	18.4	18.0	17.7
<u>2. Corrected Death Rate</u>					
Wells R.D.C.	9.46	10.58	8.07	8.75	8.73
Somerset	10.77	11.23	10.62	10.18	10.37
England & Wales	11.9	12.2	11.3	11.5	11.7
<u>3. Infant Mortality Rate</u>					
Wells R.D.C.	5.65	15.46	11.18	23.1	25.64
Somerset	17.36	14.64	13.0	10.75	15.12
England & Wales	21.6	21.1	20.0	19.0	19.0

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (5 YEAR PERIOD 1962-1966)

DISEASE	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
Dysentery (Flexner)	-	1	-	-	-
Dysentery (Sonne)	-	78	-	1	-
Erysipelas	2	1	2	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	3	-	-	-
Measles	91	215	9	76	33
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	-	-	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	3	5	2	3	2
Scarlet Fever	2	3	4	-	-
Tuberculosis - Respiratory	3	2	3	2	3
Whooping Cough	-	-	4	-	-
TOTAL ALL CAUSES	101	308	24	82	39

CAUSES OF DEATH AT DIFFERENT PERIODS OF LIFE DURING 1966

(As given by the Registrar-General)

CAUSE OF DEATH	Sex	Total all Ages	Under 4 wks & 4 wks under 1 year	Age in Years									
				1-	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75 & above	
Malignant Neoplasm	M	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	-
Stomach	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Malignant Neoplasm	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Lung, Bronchus	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm													
Breast	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm													
Uterus	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Other Malignant &	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1
Lymphatic Neoplasms	F	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	3
Diabetes	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Vascular Lesions	M	10	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	4	4
of Nervous System	F	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	8	6
Coronary Disease,	M	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	5	4
Angina	F	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	4	10
Hypertension with	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Heart Disease	F	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	1
Other Heart Disease	M	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	7
	F	23	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	20
Other Circulatory	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Disease	F	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Influenza	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
	F	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Pneumonia	M	3	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	1
	F	25	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	19
Bronchitis	M	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	1	2
	F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Other Diseases of													
Respiratory System	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Gastritis/Enteritis	M	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
and diarrhoea	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Nephritis and													
Nephrosis	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Hyperplasia of													
Prostate	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Other Defined and	M	11	2	-	-	1	-	1	-	1	1	1	5
ill-defined diseases	F	7	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Motor Vehicle Accid	M	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
All other Accid.	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
	F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1
TOTAL ALL CAUSES	M	71	2	1	-	2	1	3	3	10	18	30	
	F	117	1	1	-	1	-	3	3	10	25	76	

NOTES ON VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1966.

(Although as a general rule the figures are too small for much significance to be attached to them, nevertheless certain broad statements can be made).

Population

An increase of only 40 over the 1965 mid-year population was estimated by the Registrar-General, and deaths exceeded births by 32.

Births

Live Births - totalled 17 less than in 1965 and there was a corresponding drop in the birth rate to a figure less than the County and National rates. There were 4 less illegitimate births than in the previous year, giving a percentage figure better than that of the County as a whole.

Still Births - there were none this year.

Deaths

All Ages - again rose, to 20 more than in the previous year, but when the Recorded Death Rate is adjusted by a lowered Area Deaths Comparability Factor, a Corrected Death Rate is obtained better than the County or National Rates.

Infant Mortality - there was one more infant death than in 1965, giving correspondingly higher mortality rates.

Maternal Mortality - no deaths occurred in women from the District as a result of pregnancy, childbirth or abortion.

Causes of Death

Diseases of the Cardio-Vascular System - totalled 10 more than in the previous year, when the figure of 90 deaths was reached, and constituted by far the largest single group of diseases causing death in the District. Of this group, Coronary and Other Heart Disease caused 67 deaths and Vascular Diseases of the Nervous System 26.

Respiratory Diseases - still occupied second place, with 49 deaths, Pneumonia causing 28 deaths of these, and Bronchitis 9. Most of these deaths (9/10ths) occurred in the age group 65 years and upwards.

Cancer deaths - dropped again, to 18 deaths, and of these Lymphatic and other Malignant Neoplasms caused 8 deaths, Stomach Cancer 5 deaths, and Lung Cancer 2.

Death by Accident - rose to 5, of which 1 involved a motor vehicle.

NOTES ON NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

A 5-year table of these is supplied for the first time, for greater interest, and it will be seen that Measles dropped to less than half the incidence of the previous year, whilst the incidence of Puerperal Pyrexia and Pulmonary Tuberculosis remained much the same.

The 2 cases of Puerperal Pyrexia occurred in hospital, whilst the 3 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis occurred in different parts of the District and were unrelated. The single case of Meningococcal Meningitis occurred in a young schoolboy, who made a complete recovery, and there was no spread of the disease.

ANNUAL RETURN OF FOOD POISONING. NOTIFICATIONS.

No cases of Food Poisoning were notified during the year, or human cases of Salmonella infection.

MILK AND DAIRIES (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, 1959

Two instances occurred during the year of Brucella Abortus infections in dairy herds but in each case the milk was sent in bulk for pasteurisation so that formal Heat Treatment Orders were not required.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 (SEC.47) & AMENDMENT ACT, 1951

In spite of frequent visits by numerous social agencies, the living conditions of an elderly widow living with her crippled son on the outskirts of a small village near Wells continued to deteriorate, so that when worsening weather conditions set in during the autumn months an Order under the Assistance Act committing the widow to the Priory Hospital was successfully applied for at the request of the family doctor, the son of 45 years consenting to go voluntarily.

Unfortunately, as occasionally happens in elderly persons following self-neglect and absence of daily contact with the outside world, the elderly mother succumbed to a respiratory infection in hospital but the son made good progress and was grateful for the improvement in his circumstances and rehabilitation.

VACCINATIONS AND INOCULATIONS.

(Figures kindly supplied by the County Medical Officer of Health)

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

- (1) Primary Courses Number of children in the District who completed a full course of primary immunisation in the year ended 31.12.66.

Children born in the years:-						Others under	TOTAL
1966	1965	1964	1963	1959-62	age 16		
45	77	8	3	5	2		140

- (2) Reinforcing Injections

Children receiving reinforcing injections in year ended 31.12.66

1	16	26	4	117	75		239
---	----	----	---	-----	----	--	-----

TETANUS IMMUNISATION

- (1) Primary Courses Number of children in District who completed a full course of primary immunisation in year ended 31.12.66.

45	77	8	3	7	2		142
----	----	---	---	---	---	--	-----

- (2) Reinforcing Injections

Children receiving reinforcing injections in year ended 31.12.66.

1	16	26	4	115	77		239
---	----	----	---	-----	----	--	-----

WHOOPING COUGH IMMUNISATION

- (1) Number of children in District who completed a primary course of Pertussis vaccine (singly or in combination) in year ended 31.12.66.

45	77	8	2	3	-		135
----	----	---	---	---	---	--	-----

- (2) Reinforcing Injections

Children receiving reinforcing injections in year ended 31.12.66.

1	15	26	4	7	-		53
---	----	----	---	---	---	--	----

POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION

- (1) Primary Courses Number of persons in District who received a course of primary vaccination during the year ended 31.12.66.

46	85	9	3	16	1		160
----	----	---	---	----	---	--	-----

- (2) Reinforcing Doses

Persons receiving reinforcing doses during the year ended 31.12.66.

-	2	6	-	127	62		197
---	---	---	---	-----	----	--	-----

SMALLPOX VACCINATION

Number of persons vaccinated (or re-vaccinated) in the District in year 1966

0-3 mths	4-6 mths	7-9 mths	10-12 mths	1 year	2-4 years	5-15 years	TOTAL	
P	P	P	P	P R	P R	P	R P	R
3	-	1	4	51 -	12	- 7	7 78	7

P = Primary vaccination. R = Re-vaccination.

MASS RADIOGRAPHY SERVICE

Visits were made by the Mass Radiography Service Unit at fortnightly intervals throughout the year to sites in Wells, Glastonbury and Street, and special visits were made to the Mendip Hospital and factories in the three towns mentioned above, with results as follows:-

	Male	Female	Total
Numbers examined	3562	2374	5936
Abnormalities detected	54	36	90
<u>DETAILS OF ABNORMALITIES DETECTED</u>			
	Male	Female	Total
Healed Pulmonary Tuberculosis	12	3	15
Bacterial & Virus Infections of the Lungs	6	5	11
Bronchial Carcinoma	6	-	6
Emphysema	2	-	2
Active Pulmonary Tuberculosis	1	2	3
Abnormality of the Diaphragm	-	1	1
Acquired Cardiac Lesion	8	11	19
Carcinoma of the Breast	-	1	1
Bronchitis & Emphysema	7	1	8
Collapsed Lower Right Lobe	1	-	1
Congenital Cardiac Lesion	-	1	1
Hilar Adenitis	-	1	1
Pulmonary Fibrosis	1	1	2
Pulmonary Fibrosis & Bronchitis	-	1	1
Bronchiectasis	2	1	3
Kyphosis	-	1	1
Pleural Effusion	-	1	1
Bronchitis	1	-	1
Dorsal Scoliosis	2	-	2
Goitre	1	-	1
Sarcoidosis	-	1	1
Pulmonary Tuberculosis requiring observation	-	1	1
Elevated Diaphragm	-	1	1
Residual Fibrosis	1	1	2
Basal Fibrosis & Pleural Involvement	1	-	1
Pleural Thickening	1	1	2
Pneumoconiosis	1	-	1

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S REPORT

SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The following information regarding existing and proposed sewerage and sewage disposal arrangements in the Council's District is submitted in compliance with Ministry of Health Circular 1/67.

The villages provided with public sewers and efficient sewage disposal works are as follows:-

Wookey	
Walton	
Meare (Central part of village only)	
Easton	) joint scheme
Westbury-sub-Mendip	
Rodney Stoke	) joint scheme
Draycott	

As predicted in previous report, the Butleigh and Baltonsborough Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme including provision for sewerage the hamlet of Butleigh Wootton commenced in June 1965 and was completed and available for use in November this year. Since the public sewers became available, applications from property owners to connect house drainage systems thereto have been continued. The resulting work has, however, proved to be a burden to the few local contractors who have had to provide labour to deal with it and the rate at which domestic drainage systems are connected to the public sewer is controlled by this factor. The availability of the public sewer has also encouraged owners of property to improve dwellings by the provision of bathrooms and associated amenities such as hot water systems.

The Council's programme respecting the provision of public sewers and sewerage disposal works remains as previously reported:-

Coxley, Wookey Hole and adjacent localities of Glencot, Elm Close and Haybridge.

Work on the Coxley scheme has continued during the year but has been somewhat restricted because of protracted negotiations over the requisition of land for a pumping station. It would appear that these difficulties have now been largely resolved and it is hoped that greater progress will be made in 1967.

Improvement to a sewage disposal works serving nine Council houses at West Horrington and a few privately owned properties was effected during the year. The works referred to have resulted in the sewage disposal system becoming more efficient and capable of producing an effluent of improved quality.

WATER SUPPLY

Water supplies were again satisfactory during the year, a good standard of quality was maintained and no complaints of shortages were received.

The works detailed overleaf were carried out by the statutory undertakers, namely, Bristol Waterworks Co.

MAINS LAID BY BRISTOL WATERWORKS COMPANY
IN WELLS R.D.C. AREA DURING THE PAST YEAR

Location	Length	Type of Pipe
	Yards	
Rodney Stoke	60	3" Dia.
	70	4" Dia.
St. Cuthbert Out	14	3" Dia.
	14	4" Dia.
Westbury-sub-Mendip	106	4" Dia.

FLUORIDATION OF WATER SUPPLIES

The following figures show the content of fluoride in the water supplied from the different sources:-

<u>Source</u>	<u>Average Fluoride Parts per Million as F</u>
Priddy	Nil
Watchet Springs (Horrington Area)	0.04
Wookey	0.10
Slab House	0.15
Cheddar and Honeyhurst Supply	0.12

NOTES ON WATER SUPPLIES TO INDIVIDUAL VILLAGES

BALTONSBOROUGH

Each inhabited house has a supply laid on.

BUTLEIGH

140 houses are supplied with main water and a few of the outlying properties rely on wells.

CHEWTON MENDIP

Most of the 178 houses in this village are supplied with water from the Waldegrave Estate Company's private supply. A few properties, because of their situation, rely on wells or rain water storage.

OUT ST. CUTHBERT

East and West Horrington - 85 houses out of 134 have a piped supply and the remainder are supplied from standpipes.

Coxley - approximately 149 houses out of 205 are supplied with water on tap and the only suppliers now are the statutory undertakers since a new main was laid for the benefit of the residents of Coxley Wick.

Burcott - few houses but mainly relying on wells.

Easton - this village has a main water supply. 78 of the 105 houses are connected to the Bristol Waterworks Company's mains and 24 rely on standpipes.

Wookey Hole, Elm Close and Haybridge - these groups of houses are supplied by the Bristol Waterworks Company.

Dulcote - some 45 houses of which 32 have a piped supply derived from a small private water system installed many years ago. The quality and quantity of this supply has been satisfactory during the year.

Chilcote, Worminster, Milton and Walcombe - these small groups of houses have piped supplies from various sources and their needs appear to have been met.

DINDER

55 out of 63 houses have piped supplies from the Dinder Estate Supply. This water is derived from springs which rise near Masbury Ring. The remainder of the houses are not within reach of the mains and have to rely on wells, etc. for their water. The Dinder Estate Supply is adequate in quantity for the needs of the village and the quality has been maintained by chlorination.

GODNEY

52 out of 73 houses have piped supplies from the mains of the statutory undertakers. The remainder of the houses have to rely on private supplies as they are not in compact groups or within easy reach of the trunk main.

MEARE

The Bristol Waterworks Company supply this village. 213 out of 295 houses have piped water and approximately 30 others are served by standpipe.

NORTH WOOTTON

69 out of 83 houses have piped water of good quality and unlimited quantity. The village is supplied by the Bristol Waterworks Company.

PRIDDY

58 of the 96 houses have piped supplies. The majority of this number are supplied from the Bristol Waterworks Company's mains but there are still a few obtaining water from agricultural systems installed by the Church Commissioners.

RODNEY STOKE

There are 249 houses in this parish and 224 are supplied by the Bristol Waterworks Company.

SHARPHAM

10 houses out of 30 have piped supplies. The remainder are not within easy reach of the main and have to haul water from one of two standpipes which have been provided.

WALTON

There are 215 houses, and all except the outlying ones now have water on tap. The total number of houses with piped water is 188.

WESTBURY-SUB-MENDIP

The total number of houses in this parish is 197 and 173 have main water.

WEST PENNARD

185 out of 203 houses have piped supplies. The remainder have standpipes within easy reach or rely on private supplies.

WOOKEY

A rather scattered parish, comprising Wookey, Worth, Yarley, Henton and Bleadney. There are 341 houses in this village and 252 have piped water from the Bristol Waterworks Company's mains.

THE MENDIP HOSPITAL

This large hospital which houses over 1,000 patients and staff has its own water supply. The main source is two boreholes situated between Bristol Road and Watchet's Spring which provides the water for East and West Horrington. These boreholes are in the old red sandstone formation, and yield sufficient water for the very large demands of this hospital.

Arrangements have been made with the Bristol Waterworks Company to provide a supply in an emergency.

INSPECTIONS

The following is a summary of the inspections made during the year:-

<u>Infectious Diseases</u>	Nil
<u>Disinfectants</u> - supplied by Council 	4
<u>Visits</u> connected with Suspected Food Poisoning Outbreaks	Nil
<u>Nuisances</u> - arising from foul and choked drains, foul accumulations, etc. 	56
<u>Drainage Works</u>	271
Samples - of drinking water sent to the County Lab. for chemical analysis 	5
Samples - of drinking water sent to the P.H. Lab. for bacteriological examination 	40
<u>Petroleum Acts</u> - premises licensed under Petroleum Acts for the storage of Petrol 	54
<u>Visits</u> - re water supplies 	64
<u>Bakchouses</u> (1), <u>Slaughterhouses</u> (4), inspected ...	60
<u>Public Schools</u> - inspected 	25
<u>Dairies</u> - visits to 	24
<u>Visits</u> - re food inspection 	260
<u>Other Inspections</u> - under Housing acts 	181
<u>Visits</u> - re refuse collection 	86
<u>Inspections</u> - Ice cream premises 	51
<u>Caravans</u> - 	58

ICE CREAM

Premises registered for the manufacture of Ice Cream	Nil
Premises registered for the sale of Ice Cream	56

SLAUGHTERHOUSES

The sole licensed slaughterhouse in the Council's district continues in operation. The premises are well maintained and comply with the structural provisions of the Slaughterhouse (Hygiene) Regulations in every respect. The premises are used two or three times a week and the animals slaughtered provide meat for the retail family butchering business adjoining.

The whole of the meat produced in 1966 was inspected in accordance with the Meat Inspection Regulations 1963 and full particulars are contained in the Schedule at the end of this report.

There are no poultry processing establishments within the district.

REFUSE COLLECTION

Refuse is collected fortnightly from all premises in the District. A Contractor is engaged for this work and the terms of agreement require him to provide a properly covered refuse collection vehicle, staff and equipment. The Contractor has always complied with the terms of the agreement and at times probably exceeded his obligations, particularly in arranging for the removal of refuse from premises occupied by elderly, handicapped or infirm persons.

Refuse is disposed of by tipping as described in previous reports. The isolated position of the tip is such that it is unlikely ever to become a source of nuisance to residents in the area, furthermore there is ample covering material available near the site at moderate cost.

Frequent inspections are made and the necessary measures taken to ensure freedom from vermin.

In an endeavour to find the most suitable litter receptacle for main road laybys and picnic spots, various types have been used but unfortunately all seem to have deficiencies. The special holder for paper sacks incorporating a heavy lid has been tried but although having some merit is not completely satisfactory, being easily overturned and not proof against birds and animals. The refuse which accumulates in litter bins placed in public places must be collected and this can be an expensive item if special arrangements involving travelling are required.

The cesspool emptying scheme introduced on 1st October 1965 has worked well and no difficulties have been experienced.

Under the scheme owners are entitled to have cesspools emptied once per annum free of charge where it is not possible to connect house drainage systems to a public sewer.

FOOD INSPECTION

All food premises, i.e. those in which food is prepared, served, sold or stored including licensed premises, were inspected during the year. There were few changes in management and the number of persons employed more or less the same as in previous years. The few minor defects observed during inspection of premises were remedied on informal notice and no complaints were made by the public in respect of any establishment, proprietor or employee.

Rather more canned food was surrendered and destroyed than hitherto owing to the establishment of a wholesale grocer in the area.

No cases were reported during the year necessitating proceedings under Section 2 of the Food and Drugs Act 1955.

DISTRIBUTION AND SALE OF MILK

The Somerset County Council is responsible for the administration of the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations 1960 and issue licences to all dealers of designated milk except those producer retailers covered by the County Agricultural Committee.

County District Councils are required to register distributors of milk having premises in their respective districts and there were seven in Wells Rural District Council's area at the end of 1966.

Several cases of Brucella Abortus in dairy cows were notified during the period under review. Each case was investigated and the farmer advised regarding precautions required. On no occasion however was it necessary to serve notice under Regulation 20 of the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959, the milk from all farms concerned being heat treated.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

INSPECTIONS for purpose of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Inspections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	2	2	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories not included In (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	37	22	Nil	Nil
(iii) Other premises enforced by Local Authority	7	10	Nil	Nil
TOTAL	46	34	Nil	Nil

DEFECTS Insufficient Sanitary Accommodation in three instances - remedied on informal action.

OUTWORKERS There are 12 Outworkers in the District (concerned with wearing apparel).

DISEASES OF ANIMALS (WASTE FOOD) ORDER 1957

One application for a licence to operate plant and equipment under the provisions of the Diseases of Animals (Waste Foods) Order 1957 was received during the year. A licence was subsequently issued after a satisfactory report had been submitted to the appropriate Committee of the Council concerning the plant and equipment provided on the premises in question and the method of operation.

There are three licences in operation in the district at the present time. All premises have been visited during the year and found to be satisfactory on each occasion; furthermore, no complaints were received in regard thereto.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT 1936 - LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

It was necessary during the year to prosecute a poultry farmer whose premises are situated in the parish of Walton for disposing of manure in such a manner as to be prejudicial to the health of occupants of nearby houses.

The proceedings were successful, an Order made by the Court for the abatement of the nuisance and part of the costs of the case awarded to the Council.

FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, 1960

Trade	No. of premises	No. complying with Reg: 16	No. of premises to which Reg: 19 applies	No. of premises fitted to comply with Reg:19
Grocers	41	35	41	41
Butchers	3	3	3	3
Catering Premises (including licensed premises)	42	37	42	42
School Kitchens	5	5	5	5
TOTALS	91	80	91	91

MEAT INSPECTION

Period - 1st January - 31st December, 1966
Carcases and Offal Inspected and Condemned in whole or in part

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number Killed	93	-	-	571	115	-
Number Inspected	93	-	-	571	115	-
<u>All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci:</u>						
Whole Carcasses condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	15	-	-	55	3	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerci:	16.1%	-	-	9.6%	2.6%	-
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Cysticercosis</u>						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	-	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and Totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Weight of Meat condemned (in lbs.) for:-						
(a) Tuberculosis	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(b) Other	126	-	-	111	9	-
(c) Cysticercosis	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total (in lbs.) condemned	126	-	-	111	9	-

